

Appl. No. 10/664,127
Amdt. Dated
Reply to Office Action of July 6, 2006

CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A universal anchor for a vehicle, comprising:
a magnet being fixedly secured to an anchor portion defining an opening;
a flux deflector of ferro-magnetic material movably mounted to said anchor for movement in a range defined by a first position wherein said flux deflector is adjacent said magnet on an opposite side of said magnet from a sensing switch and said flux deflector is biased into said first position, and a second position wherein said flux deflector is moved away from said first position, said flux deflector effectively blocking said opening when said flux deflector is in said first position;

said sensing switch mounted adjacent to said magnet configured to detect the magnetic field of said magnet, wherein said magnetic field is increased as said flux deflector moves from said first position towards said second position, said sensing switch providing a detectable signal when said magnetic field is increased.

2. (Original) The universal anchor as in claim 1, wherein said sensing switch comprises a Hall effect device positioned to sense the magnetic field of said magnet.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The universal anchor as in claim 1, wherein said detectable signal being received by a controller of an airbag module and said controller suppresses the operation on an airbag module in response to said detectable signal received from said sensing switch.

5. (Original) The universal anchor as in claim 1, wherein flux deflector is biased into said first position, wherein said flux deflector must be moved from said first position to allow a hook to engage said anchor.

Appl. No. 10/664,127
Amdt. Dated
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6. (Original) The universal anchor as in claim 5, wherein said sensing switch comprises a Hall effect device positioned to sense the magnetic field of said magnet.
7. (Original) The universal anchor as in claim 6, wherein said detectable signal being received by a controller of an airbag module.
8. (Original) The universal anchor as in claim 1, wherein said flux deflector effectively blocks said opening when said flux deflector is in said first position and movement of said flux deflector from said first position is detected by said sensing switch.
9. (Original) The universal anchor as in claim 8, wherein said flux deflector further comprises an actuating end and a flux deflection end, wherein said actuating end travels in a first direction and said flux deflection end travels in a second direction when said flux deflector moves from said first position, said first direction being opposite to said second direction.
10. (Original) The universal anchor as in claim 9, wherein said actuating end further comprises a channel portion.
11. (Original) The universal anchor as in claim 9, wherein said actuating end and said flux deflection end are each configured to have a periphery larger than a corresponding portion of said opening being blocked by said flux deflector.
12. (Original) The universal anchor as in claim 8, wherein said flux deflector further comprises an actuating end and a flux deflection end, wherein said actuating end travels in a first direction and said flux deflection end travels in a second direction when said flux deflector moves from said first position, said flux deflector being biased into said first position.

Appl. No. 10/664,127
Amdt. Dated
Reply to Office Action of July 6, 2006

13. (Original) The universal anchor as in claim 12, further comprising a stopping member for making contact with said actuating end when said flux deflector is in said first position.

14. (Original) The universal anchor as in claim 13, wherein said actuating end further comprises a channel portion.

15. (Original) The universal anchor as in claim 12, wherein said actuating end and said flux deflection end are each configured to have a periphery larger than a corresponding portion of said opening being blocked by said flux deflector.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) A detection device for a universal anchor of a vehicle, comprising:

a pivotable member being pivotably mounted within an opening defined by the anchor, said pivotable member being capable of movement within a range defined by a first position and a second position, wherein the opening is effectively blocked by said pivotable member when said pivotable member is in said first position, said pivotable member further comprising an actuating end and a detection end;

a magnet disposed on said detection end of said pivotable member;

a sensing device for detecting the magnetic field of said magnet, wherein said sensing device provides a signal indicative of the position of said pivotable member.

Appl. No. 10/664,127
Amdt. Dated
Reply to Office Action of July 6, 2006

20. (Original) The detection device as in claim 19, wherein said sensing device comprises a Hall effect device positioned to sense the magnetic field of said magnet.
21. (Previously Presented) The detection device as in claim 19, wherein said pivotable member is biased into said first position.
22. (Original) The detection device as in claim 19, wherein said signal is received by a controller of an airbag module.
23. (Previously Presented) The detection device as in claim 19, wherein said pivotable member is biased into said first position, and said pivotable member must be moved from said first position to allow a hook to engage said anchor.
24. (Previously Presented) The detection device as in claim 19, wherein said actuating end travels in a first direction and said detection end travels in a second direction when said pivotable member moves from said first position, said first direction being opposite to said second direction.
25. (Original) The detection device as in claim 24, wherein said actuating end further comprises a channel portion.
26. (Previously Presented) The detection device as in claim 19, wherein said actuating end and said detection end are each configured to have a periphery larger than a corresponding portion of said opening being blocked by said pivotable member.
27. (Previously Presented) The detection device as in claim 23, further comprising a stopping member for making contact with said actuating end when said pivotable member is in said first position.

Appl. No. 10/664,127
Amdt. Dated
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28. (Previously Presented) The detection device as in claim 24, further comprising a stopping member for making contact with said actuating end when said pivotable member is in said first position.